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SOLTON ON DELEGATION'S PERSISTENCE AT GENEVA

LD211643 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Soviet-American consultations over the problems of nuclear tests resume in Geneva on 22d January. More from our observer Yuriy Solton, and this is what he writes.

Last year similar meetings of experts yielded no positive results. The American delegation was even against having the word ban in the name of such consultations. This detail reflects the position of the Washington administration seeking to uphold the program for extensive nuclear tests needed by it for the purpose of developing space weapons first and foremost. The United States has refused to accept the Soviet Union's invitation to join in its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions which has entered its 534th day on 21st January and was recently extended for the fifth time until the United States carries out its first explosion in 1987.

In order to alleviate in some way the public discontent with the administration's negative position, President Reagan has submitted to the Senate two Soviet-American agreements for ratification. One, signed in 1974, set the ceiling the 150 kilotonnes for underground nuclear tests and the other, signed in 1976, outlines measures preventing the use of nuclear blasts for military purposes. The White House, however, attached such reservations to the ratification of these agreements that even the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Claiborne Pell declared that to discuss the agreements on the conditions put by the administration would be just a waste of time.

Why does the Soviet Union still agree to hold consultations in Geneva? This is because it doesn't want to miss a single chance in its effort to halt nuclear blasts once and for all. The Soviet Union's stand on the issue is consistend and principled. In his message to the leaders of the Delhi Six, the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, states that the Soviet Union regards, as before, a total ban on nuclear weapons tests as a priority measure on the way to reducing nuclear weapons and their subsequent elimination.

The Soviet Union proposes that this question be solved without delay, even if the situation compels the Soviet Union to resume nuclear tests, it will continue campaigning with the same persistence for the opening of full-scale talks over the issue to be held at any level and at any forum, but with participation of the United States of course.

GDR RADIO ASSESSES SOVIET POSTURE AT ARMS TALKS

LD212113 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1605 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] A new round of Soviet-American talks on nuclear tests begins in Geneva tomorrow. Here is a report from our Moscow correspondent, Klaus-Juergen Fischer, on the negotiating position of the Soviet side.

[Fischer] The following situation exists at the resumption of the talks: When the experts sit down opposite one another tomorrow, the Soviet test sites will have been silent for 535 days, while in the meantime the United States will have carried out 24 nucleasr tests. The Soviet delegation has been instructed to propose to the American side that the new round of talks be used as a direct preparation for the start of comprehensive negotiations with the aim of concluding a treaty on a final test ban.

The shortest and simplest way to such an agreement would of course be opened by a willingness on the part of the United States to immediately join the Soviet moratorium. We have already extended our moratorium five times, say people here in Moscow. Washington would only need to join once. Work could then begin on devising a treaty without hast or fear on the one side that the other might achieve military advantages.

However, as Washington has so far shown its unwillingness to follow this simple path, Moscow has proposed other variations. If the United States does not want to end nuclear tests immediately, there could also be agreement on ways of limiting the strength and number of the tests. The final aim here would also be a complete ban, because that would be an effective means of putting a brake on the modernization of existing weapons and on the development of new ones, if not preventing them.

Other possibilities of reaching a solution are being proposed by the Soviet side. For example, there could be agreement to expand the Moscow treaty on banning nuclear tests on land, at sea and in the air, so as is also to ban underground tests. A further Soviet proposal envisages resuming the trilateral talks on these questions, in which Great Britain was also involved and which were broken off by the western partners shortly before a successful conclusion.

Mikhail Gorbachev said recently in his reply to the six-state initiative: We are ready to negotiate. We are ready to conduct negotiations in any body and at any forum, and of course involving the United States. The Soviet delegation is going into the new Geneva round tomorrow with these proposals. All this is faced by the announcement from Washington that the plan is to conduct a further nuclear test on 5 February. This would lead to the Soviet Union, as a government statement says, seeing itself forced to abandon its unilateral moratorium. The American scientists, who in an experiment with Soviet colleagues have since summer 1986 been observing the silent Soviet test site in Semipalatinsk, woudl have to register the first Soviet explosion. Even then the Soviet Union will keep the door open for results-orientated negotiations. Every day and every month, Mikhail Gorbachev said in his message, we will be ready to return to the moratorium if the United States decides to end its nuclear tests. The best variation would of course be the first named one- for the Soviet moratorium to carry on without a break because an American one is announced. This would create the best climate for negotiations on a complete ban on nuclear tests and strict control measures, as the Soviet delegation will propose tomorrow at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva.

LEBEDEV CITED ON ALTERNATIVE DEFENSE STRATEGY

LD220954 Moscow TASS in English 0926 GMT 22 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 22 TASS -- Europe's chance to survive lies not in the projects of a "European nuclear bomb" or British-French nuclear systems. The way to survival is a different one. True national security guarantees can be ensured only within the framework of all-embracing and universal security identical and equal to all, Aleksandr Lebedev points out in the latest issue of the NFW TIMES weekly. Britain and France as well as their non-nuclear allies in Western Europe could make a considerable contribution to that, or at the very least, try not to put up additional obstacles, Aleksandr Lebedev stressed.

What is to be done then with the British and French nuclear force? The only sensible way is to lead things to their reduction and elimination. And let them in London and Paris (and at the same time in Bonn too) not to assess that as an encroachment upon their sovereignty, the independent role in international affairs or their West European identity.

That could look as an encroachment if the Soviet Union let us say, simultaneously claimed that its own nuclear systems be left untouched, or thought of ensuring its nuclear missile monopoly in Europe. But things stand differently, Aleksandr Lebedev points out.

The Soviet Union does not raise the question of an immediate cut in or elimination of British and French nuclear systems.

This should be started by the USSR and the USA, while Britain's and France's turn to join in that process as was proposed in the statement of January 15, 1986, would come at the second stage, i.e., eight of five [as received] years later. Over the time left before the end of this century, the elimination should be completed of all nuclear arms on earth.

And let the current leaders of Britain, France and other West European nations not to frighten their public by the prospect that Europe will be thrown back into the epoch of seven-thirty- and even hundred-year wars. There is no danger of a return to arrows and arbalests. The striking power of the modern non-nuclear weapons is so great that they can successfully perform the functions of a deterrence factor if the Western politicians are so firmly convinced that international stability can be based solely on the deterrence or fear rather than a trust system. It would be, certainly, better if they succeeded at long last in getting rid of that syndrome, Aleksandr Lebedev said in conclusion.

SOKOLOV ARTICLE IN LE MONDE 'ABBREVIATED'

LD221030 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0150 GMT 22 Jan 87

["Security: Problems and Opportunities" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 22 Jan (TASS) -- The French paper LE MONDE asked the USSR minister of defense to contribute an article in connection with the first anniversary of M.S. Gorbachev's 15 January 1986 statement.

On 20 January 1987 the article was published in a considerably abbreviated form, giving the readers an incomplete picture of its content. The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA daily publishes the full text of the article by the USSR minister of defense.

We in the Soviet Union Marshal Sergey Sokolov writes, proceed from the fact that in a nuclear and space era competition in the quantity and quality of arms and the striving toward military superiority will not give political or military advantage to anyone. A path toward security entails a lowering of the levels of military confrontation, a reduction and, in the final analysis, a complete elimination of nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons. Military potentials should be curtailed to be within the limits which are essential for defensive purposes alone.

Despite the statements by individual Western leaders about desire for nuclear disarmament, Sergey Sokolov continues, the military strategy of the United States and NATO, their military planning, the structure of the armed forces, manuals and regulations of the arms of the services continue to be based upon the use of nuclear arms and, moreover, no matter how much they try to deny this, upon being the first to use nuclear arms.

One has, even most recently, heard the armed forces of the United States and NATO are not ready to discharge the tasks set for them without nuclear arms. This is the case now and it remains the case for an indefinite period. Arguments in favor of improving nuclear arms, creating new types and versions of nuclear arms and continuing nuclear testing take their beginning from here.

As distinct from the United States and the other NATO countries, the USSR is ready to build its defenses without relying upon nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons. We are ready to begin a reorganization of our entire military mechanism on a nuclear-free basis immediately, should other nuclear powers embark on this path as well. The Soviet side adheres to the view that nuclear disarmament should be accompanied by considerable reduction of the armed forces and conventional arms on the basis of reciprocity.

Naturally, the Soviet leadership is aware of the complexity of solving the problem of ridding our planet of nuclear arms. However, it is also just as well aware of the fact the continuing arms race is pushing the world closer and closer toward a nuclear disaster. If measures are not taken now, if the nuclear arms race is not halted now, the course of events may slip from man's control. The USSR considers it its lofty duty to do everything it can to preserve the future of the planet jointly with all states, for the benefit of all the peoples of the world.

CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ENDS IN MOSCOW

LD211915 Moscow TASS in English 1831 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 21 TASS -- The 122nd meeting of the CMEA Executive Committee ended in Moscow today. It was attended by representatives of countries on the Executive Committee, deputy heads of government of the CMEA member countries, as well as a member of the Federal Executive Council and permanent representative of Yugoslavia to the CMEA.

The Executive Committee discussed some questions on implementing the comprehensive programme for scientific and technical progress of the CMEA member countries up to the year 2000. It examined proposals aimed at raising reliability of parallel operation of united power grids of the CMEA countries in water conservancy and the environmental control.

After examining the results of CMEA's cooperation with international economic, scientific and technical organizations, the Executive Committee noted that it contributed to the all-round development of equal and mutually advantageous relations between all states, irrespective of their political systems, improvement of international economic relations, quaranteeing of economic security of states, strengthening of confidence between them, preservation and consolidation of peace.

SFRY Involvement To Continue

LD211311 BELGRADE TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1114 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 21 Jan (TANJUG) -- Mito Pejovski, member of the Federal Executive Council and Yugoslavia's permanent representative to CEMA, had talks in Moscow today with CEMA Secretary Vyacheslav Sychev about participation by Yugoslav economic, scientific and technical organizations in the implementation of CEMA's program for scientific and technical progress. The program, adopted a year ago, provides guidelines for the scientific and technical development of the CEMA member-countries up to the year 2000.

It was agreed during today's meeting that Yugoslavia's involvement in the realization of this program on the basis of an agreement reached between Yugoslavia and the CEMA in 1964 will contribute to the further development of mutually beneficial cooperation between Yugoslavia and the CEMA member-countries.

ADN Issues Communique

LD211749 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1523 GMT 21 Jan 87

["Communique on the 122d Session of the Executive Committee of CEMA" -- ADN headline]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Jan 87 (ADN) -- The 122d session of the CEMA Executive Committee took place in Moscow from 20 to 21 January. The session was attended by representatives of the countries in the executive Committee, the deputy heads of government of: the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Kiril Zarev; the Hungarian People's Republic, Joszef Marjai; the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Tran Quynh; the GDR, Guenther Kleiber; the Republic of Cuba, Antonio Esquivel; the Mongolian People's Republic, Myatavyn Peljee; the PPR, Wladyslaw Gwiazda; the Socialist Republic of Romania, Cornel Pacoste; the USSR, Aleksey Antonov; the CSSR, Rudolf Rohlicek; and the secretary of the Council, Vyacheslav Sychev.

In accordance with the agreement between CEMA and the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Executive Committee session also was attended by the member of the FEC of the SFRY, Mito Pejovski, permanent SFRY representative at CEMA.

The session was chaired by Aleksey Antonov, representative of the USSR.

The Executive Committee discussed issues relating to the implementation of the integrated program of scientific-technological progresss of the CEMA member countries up to the year 2000. In particular, proposals were discussed for the creating of an information system for the verification of the program's fulfillment. The need to activate cooperation in a number of problems relating to integrated automation was stressed.

The Executive Committee dealt with the proposals for raising the reliability of the integrated energy supply systems of the CEMA member countries and recommended that the countries implement the relevant measures.

It also discussed the current level of multilateral cooperation in the construction of the Krivoy Rog mining and processing combine.

Other topics dealt with were issues relating to multilateral cooperation between the CEMA countries in water resources and the environment. This work aims especially at developing progressive technologies, equipment, and apparatuses for the effective protection of water resources and their economical use.

The Executive Committee discussed the results of CEMA cooperation with international economic and scientific-technological organizations. This cooperation contributes to the all-round development of equal and mutually beneficial relations between all world states, irrespective of their political systems, for the improving international economic relations, for ensuring the economic security of the states, for strengthening trust between them, and for maintaining and strengthening peace.

The committee approved the plan for CEMA's contacts with international organizations in 1987 and the draft programs of cooperation between CEMA and a number of these organizations.

The Executive Committee confirmed the plan of work for 1987-88 and discussed other issues of multilateral cooperation.

The Executive Committee Session passed off in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

USSR HALTS 'JAMMING' OF BBC RUSSIAN BROADCASTS

LD211905 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1809 GMT 21 Jan 87

[By John von Radowitz, PA staff reporter]

[Text] The Soviets have mysteriously stopped jamming the BBC's Russian service for the first time in six-and-a-half years, it was disclosed today.

The electronic noise which normally overlays BBC radio broadcasts in Russian to the Soviet Union suddenly disappeared at 5 PM on Tuesday. BBC engineers at Crowsley Park, near Reading, Berkshire, were surprised to find the Russian service giving out loud and clear to the estimated 18 million listeners who regularly tune in despite the jamming.

News of what had happened was delayed to allow confirmation by sources inside Moscow. Today's broadcasts were also free from interference.

A BBC spokesman said today: "We are all puzzled". But there are a number of private theories to explain the Soviet action. One is a possible link with Mrs Thatcher's planned visit to Moscow in March.

Another theory is that the move results from the Iceland summit of Soviet leader Gorbachev and President Reagan last year. It is known they discussed jamming.

But perhaps the most pausible explanation is that the image-concious Russians want to be able to counter some of the criticism they will undoubtedly face at an international meeting on short wave frequency management, to be held in Geneva next month.

One problem for the Soviet Union is that jamming inevitably "spills over" onto other frequencies and can interfere with broadcasts into Russian from her allies.

BBC broadcasts to the Soviet Union began in 1946 and have been jammed for 24 years of their history.

Jamming has been lifted during times of "thaw" in political relations between the UK and the Soviet Union, only to be re-imposed again. The latest round started in August 1980, after the rise of the Solidarity movement in Poland.

Only a week ago Moscow radio launched its strongest attack in months on the BBC Russian service, accusing it of "lying" about Soviet internal affairs.

It is extremely costly for the Russian to jam foreign radio broadcasts because of the huge quantity of electricity consumed. The latest BBC estimate of the annual cost to the Soviet exchequer of jamming foreign broadcasts is 600 million pounds sterling.

The BBC Russian service is on the air for six-and-a-half hours a day, broadcasting news, current affairs and feature programmes.

BBC World Service and Voice of America broadcasts in English have never been jammed.

Reports last year indicated that the Russians had stopped jamming Radio Beijing.

But today American broadcasts in Russian, both from Washington and from the Munich-based station Radio Liberty, were still being interfered with. So too, were BBC Polish language broadcasts which the Soviet Union has been jamming continuously since December 1981.

Mr John Tusa, managing director of BBC external broadcasting, today welcomed the latest cessation and added: "We look forward to this change of heart being extended to our Polish transmissions, as well as to other broadcasting organisations." However, within the BBC it is not expected that Russian service broadcasts will remain unjammed indefinitely.

Work is underway on a 20 million pounds sterling scheme to replace transmitters dating from World War Two, which broadcast the Russian service. Six 250-kilowatt short wave transmitters are being built at Orfordness, Suffolk, to replace the old equipment at Skelton, Cumbria.

Ironically, the Soviet jamming of BBC broadcasts affects Radio Moscow broadcasts into Britain. Last year, BBC engineers found that two of the six frequencies used by Radio Moscow were being disrupted by spillage from Soviet jamming on adjacent Western channels.

Foreign Office Minister of State Mr Tim Renton said tonight it was too soon to be sure whether the cessation of jamming represented a significant change in Soviet policy. "But it is a welcome development so soon after my visit to Moscow last week, during which I asked the Soviet authorities on a number of occasions to stop jamming the BBC's broadcasts," added Mr Renton in a statement.

FOREIGN MINISTRY'S KOVALEV ENDS PAKISTAN VISIT

LD211555 Moscow TASS in English 1547 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Islamabad January 21 TASS -- Anatoliy Kovalev, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, today left Islamabad for Moscow. At the airport he was seen off by Abdus Sattar, first deputy foreign minister of Pakistan, and other officials. Abdul-Rakhman Khalil Vezirov, ambassador of the USSR to Pakistan, was among the send-off party.

PETROVSKIY CONSULTS WITH INDIAN OFFICIALS

PM211359 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Tried and Tested Friendship"]

[Text] Delhi, 18 Jan -- Soviet-Indian political consultations were held here 14-17 January to develop the accords reached during the official friendly visit to India in November 1986 by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The consultations were conducted on the Soviet side by V.F. Petrovskiy, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; and on the Indian side by Natwar Singh, minister of state for external affairs; A.P. Venkateswaran, secretary for external affairs at the Indian External Affairs Ministry; and Eric Gonsalves and Muchkund Dubey, deputy ministers of external affairs.

During the consultations, a comprehensive and in-depth exchange of opinions was held on questions of Soviet-Indian collaboration in international forums and talks. Great attention was devoted to questions of nuclear disarmament and the prevention of an arms race in space, the demilitarization of the Indian Ocean, the restructuring of international economic relations, peaceful cooperation in the sphere of space research, and the improvement of the effectiveness of the United Nations. The sides devoted particular attention to questions linked with implementing the Delhi declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free from nuclear weapons.

V.F. Petrovskiy was received by N.D. Tiwari, Indian minister of external affairs. V.N. Rykov, USSR ambassador to India, also took part in the talk.

A meeting was also held with (U.)R. Rao, secretary of the Space Research Department and chairman of the Space Research Commission.

U.S. CAUSING 'DANGEROUS SEAT OF TENSION' IN DRA

LD201514 Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 20 TASS -- Political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

The broader the international public's support for the program of national reconciliation and settlement set forth by the Afghan leadership, the harder Washington tries to obstruct such a settlement and retain the dangerous seat of tension.

The latest evidence of this is the lengthy interview by Herbert Hagerty, acting deputy assistant secretary of state for South Asia, transmitted by the Worldnet Television Network of the United States Information Agency (USIA).

Asked about what could be done by the international community for the settlement of the situation Hagerty replied that it was supposedly necessary to ensure an extensive dissemination of information about events in Afghanistan and around it. That is correct. But it is right to ask who other than Washington, whenever it comes to the "Afghan problem," most shamelessly replaces information with malicious misinformation, ignores or distorts all acts of good will taken by the Afghan leadership to stop the bloodshed? For instance, is there even one newspaper in the United States that has published the text of the declaration on national reconciliation in Afghanistan adopted by the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan?

The real worth of Mr. Hagerty's calls for "objective information" can be judged by his own interview. Using old and long exposed inventions about the mythical Soviet threat, this representative of the State Department made a big effort to scare his audience with allegations about the "expansionist aims" of the USSR which allegedly covets the Persian Gulf and threatens Pakistan and Iran.

These allegations are so absurd they do not merit a refutation. But what merits attention is the following: Taking the stance of a "champion of state sovereignty" is a representative of the diplomatic service of a country which in Asia alone resorted 230 times to the use of armed forces during recent years and in 33 instances was on the brink of using nuclear arms, a country where the murky waves of "Irangate" are rising higher and higher -- the waves of the unprecedented scandal caused among other things by the attempts of the United States flagrantly to interfere in the affairs of sovereign Iran. As is known, some people in Washington to this day cannot reconcile themselves with its "loss."

Speaking of the leaders of the anti-Afghan centres based in Pakistan Hagerty said that the United States attempts "to give them the kind of prominence that we believe their cause deserves". What is concealed behind this smooth formula? It is not a secret that in the period from 1980 to 1985 the mercenary bandit formations that under the CIA's patronage are formed, trained and equipped in the more than a hundred camps and bases set up on Pakistani territory have killed thousands of Afghans in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, destroyed or burned down dozens of enterprises, more than two thousand schools, more than a half of all medical centres. It follows from Hagerty's remarks that Washington intends to continue this bandit "cause" using the mercenaries as proxies.

This is confirmed also by the trip to Pakistan by Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost one of whose tasks, according to press reports, is to "coordinate" the actions of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries.

Of course, while making openly anti-Afghan, incendiary statements Mr. Hagerty is not always blunt. He maneouvres, he even appears to stand for the settlement of the situation around the DRA to have a political character since a solution can be found only "at the conference table". One cannot but agree with this remark by the representative of the Department of State. But the question arises: Has not another representative of the White House publicly announced that Kabul's proposed cease-fire is an "empty gesture"? But if the cease-fire is an "empty gesture", as it is contended in Washington, what does there remain? Escalation of the undeclared war against a sovereign country and a further aggravation of tension?

It is very likely that this is exactly what the ruling circles of the United States want. They profess the hegemonistic doctrine of "neoglobalism" and have turned terror into an instrument of state policy. And this is so despite all of Mr. Hagerty's attempts to insist on the opposite.

DRA'S NAJIB MEETS WITH REBEL REPRESENTATIVES

LD212220 TASS in English 1625 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul January 21 TASS -- The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Najib had a meeting here today with representatives of armed formations which had conducted or continue conducting struggle against the revolutionary authorities in five counties of Kabul Province.

In all, some 550 representatives came to Kabul. Two hundred of them have already signed protocols on ending the armed confrontation while the rest have either refused to sign them or are still undecided.

Speaking at the meeting Najib singled out three main points that would facilitate the speediest reconciliation in the country. He stressed that in Afghanistan nobody threatens Islam -- the second article of the future constitution will declare Islam the state religion. He said that Soviet troops would return home immediately after the ending of the outside interference and that representatives of the opposing side were invited to take part in the administration of the state.

AFGHAN EMIGRES FROM U.S. HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE

LD212326 Mocow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 21 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report by A. Petrova from Kabul]

[Text] A news conference has been held in Kabul by representatives of Afghan emigres from the United States. There are three of them, residents of New York: the famous surgeon, Mohammad Zia Jaghuri, the first Afghan doctor to perform a heart operation; Zia Naseri, a U.S. citizen, founder and chief editor of the Afghan emigre newspaper, AFGHAN NEWS, who tried to set up an Afghan government in exile; and Sayed Jamal Husayn, who cannot speak his native language, a lobbyist who is urging aid from the U.S. Senate for a solution of the so-called Afghan question. None of them have been in their homeland for a very long time, and everything that is going on here they know only from rumor -- basically from U.S. propaganda.

They are very surprised at how much has been done and built in the DRA, at what successes their homeland has achieved in such a short time in socioeconomic development. Their proposals -- including a general amnesty for all prisoners, the return of refugees, giving help to orphans, widows, and invalids of the war, the return home of Soviet troops, help from international organizations to provinces damaged by the war, free entry to and exit from the country, the creation of conditions for election of a coalition government -- did not prove very helpful; all these questions are being decided by Democratic Afghanistan.

Afghan, Indian, Soviet, American, French, and West German journalists plied them with questions: Would they return home if the reconciliation takes place? Of course not; we are free citizens, and we live where we please. Have the Afghan emigres given them the authority to negotiate in Kabul? Yes, the 7,000 Afghans living in the United States also want peace for their homeland. How would they behave back in the United States? If a coalition government is set up, and if the Soviet troops are withdrawn from Afghanistan, we will try to get the U.S. Congress to suspend appropriations for the dushman gangs.

[Video shows news conference scenes; Petrova asking question] It is precisely you, who represent the Afghan emigres here, who provided money for the fratricidal war in Afghanistan. Why is it that 8-10 years ago you did not put into practice your good intentions of which you speak so ardently here in order to help your Afghan people, who were living in poverty and without rights?

Both the Afghans living here and we were the victims of propaganda, Jamal Husayn says. Everyone knows that the Soviet Union brought its troops in, and we considered it our duty to give help to our brothers. We worked to get the U.S. Congress and Senate to agree to military aid for Afghanistan. Doctor Najib has now admitted that there were mistakes made in the revolution. No one took account of the fact that the Afghans are a proud people. We adopt a stance that differs from that of the counterrevolutionary organization in Pakistan, which, incidentally, does not express the views of the Afghan people either inside the country or abroad. Everything that we have discussed today is in the past. There must be mutual forgiveness. It was precisely our duty to the homeland that brought us here. We appeal for mutual injuries to be forgotten and for people to look only ahead, for the sake of peace in Afghanistan.

There was also quite a lot of reasonable talks at the news conference. They want dialogue; they are ready for any contacts, and they are full of desire to reach agreement. It is with people like this that the Afghan Government is ready to hold talks for the sake of making the venture succeed.

"UNPROVOKED" PAKISTANI ATTACK KILLS 37 PASHTUNS

LD220016 Moscow TASS in English 1951 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul January 21 TASS -- The BAKHTAR AGENCY reports that on January 19 Pakistani troops fired on with heavy arms and attacked Jerga participants of the Pashtun tribe Afridi, which was held not far from the village of Bara in the Khyber area. As a result of the unprovoked attack 37 Pashtuns were killed, including two elders of the tribe -- Olk Anwar-Jan and Lal Mohammad. The Pakistanis were repulsed and were forced to retreat, losing 15 men killed.

Jergas of tribes living in various districts of Khyber denounced criminal actions if Islamabad trampling underfood traditional rights and freedoms of Pashtuns. Representatives of all Khyber tribes expressed solidarity with Afridis and offered them assistance in rebuffing aggression of Pakistani troops.

BRIEFS

INDIAN METALLURGICAL PLANT -- Kharkov January 20 TASS -- Specialists in Kharkov, Soviet Ukraine, designed a large industrial facility for the metallurgical plant "Vizakhapatnam" in India. They completed jointly with colleagues from the friendly country work on the blueprints to build a new stage of the chemical recovery carbonization production unit at the plant. It is envisaged to put on line three coke-oven batteries each of which will have the capacity to produce over 750,000 tonnes of blast-furnance fuel a year. The Indian corporation "Mekon" brought a Soviet licence for this equipment. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 20 Jan 87 LD]

CPSU SECRETARIES DELEGATION ARRIVES IN WARSAW

LD211236 Moscow TASS in English 1224 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Warsaw January 21 TASS -- A CPSU delegation consisting of Secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin, Vadim Medvedev and Aleksandr Yakovlev arrived here today. It will take part in a regular conference of secretaries of the Central Committees of the fraternal parties on international and ideological questions.

At the airport the delegation was welcomed by member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party (PORT) [abbreviation as received] Jozef Czyrek and other officials.

The welcoming party included the Soviet Ambassador in Poland Vladimir Brovikov.

16 JAN HONECKER SPEECH TO DIPLOMATS REPORTED

LD161639 Moscow TASS in English 1557 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Berlin January 16 TASS -- The proposals put forward by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on freeing the world from all types of nuclear weapons by the year of 2000, the proposals of the Warsaw Treaty member-states on a cut in conventional weapons from the Atlantic to the Urals are a sound basis for reaching agreement.

A statement to this effect was made by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee, chairman of the GDR Council of State at a new year reception here today in honour of the heads of diplomatic representations. He stressed that the world shall not be allowed to perish as a result of nuclear war. The most effective step would, certainly, be the elimination of all types of nuclear weapons. The world needs not increasingly large quantities of weapons but greater mutual understanding.

The people of the GDR are optimistically looking into the future. They are confident that the fraternal alliance with the Soviet Union and the other socialist states is a reliable basis for the country's successful development.

BULGARIAN TRADE OFFICIAL'S CONVICTION REPORTED

PM201019 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Untitled dispatch by own correspondent V. Zakharko under the rubric "From IZVESTIYA's Teletype Room"]

[Text] Sofia -- The Bulgarian Telegraph Agency reports that on 16 January the Bulgarian Supreme Court sentenced Geo~gi Butev, former Bulgarian deputy minister of foreign trade, to 15 years' imprisonment with the confiscation of his property.

He has been found guilty of systematically abusing his official position in the period 1976 through 1986, taking bribes from representatives of foreign firms, and committing a large-scale currency crime, thereby causing considerable damage. The court decision is final and not subject to appeal.

CHIRAC RECEIVES FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ARISTOV

LD211538 Moscow TASS in English 1529 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Paris January 21 TASS -- The Prime Minister of France Jacques Chirac today received the USSR Minister of Foreign Trade Boris Aristov. The Soviet minister heads the Soviet delegation that has come here to attend the 21st session of the standing mixed Soviet-French Commission.

The course of Soviet-French economic cooperation was discussed during the conversation. The minister-delegate under the minister of economy, finance and denationalisation for foreign trade matters Michel Noir took part in it.

UK MOVES RISK 'ARMED CONFLICT' IN SOUTH ATLANTIC

LD191547 Moscow TASS in English 1514 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

British Defense Minister Younger, having made an inspection visit to the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands, reaffirmed London's readiness to use force to protect a 150-mile zone introduced arbitrarily by Britain around the archipelago. Backing this claim, as it were, five British warships, according to reports coming in from London, are about to leave for the West Atlantic to participate in manoeuvres. Such actions can only be characterised as arms brandishing instead of dialogue.

The decision of the Conservative cabinet to introduce an economic or "prohibited" zone on February 1 was taken contrary to the resolutions of the United Nations and other prestigious international organisations, which called upon the sides to hold peaceful talks to settle the conflict. Symptomatically, the decision was announced virtually the next day after the U.N. General Assembly had passed a resolution on the establishment of a zone of peace and cooperation in the South Atlantic. It was London's reply to the appeal of the world community.

The latest British action contributes to the preservation of a seat of tension, and, moreover, adds to the risk of an armed conflict around the archipelago and in the whole of the South Atlantic. It was not prompted by economic considerations, as its authors would like to make out. The decision of the Conservative cabinet has purely military and political motives. Britain would like to increase its military presence in the South Pacific by establishing a large base on the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands. Britain's militarist actions fully fit NATO strategy.

When London launched an armed act of aggression at the Malvinas (Falkland) Islands in 1982, it enjoyed Washington's direct and indirect support. The British weekly ECONOMIST admitted that the operation to return the Falklands could not have been launched, let alone won, without U.S. help and it would be naive to think that London took that step without Washington's support or against its will.

Argentina has forcefully demonstrated its will for settling the conflict by peaceful means, through dialogue and negotiations. This position of principle is supported by most of the U.N. members.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF SAUDI OIL MINISTER

Meets With Katushev

LD211636 Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 21 TASS -- Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for External Economic Ties, had a conversation today with the Saudi Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Hisham Nazir.

They discussed the state and prospects of development of the world oil market and the USSR's economic ties with Arab countries.

Ryzhkov on OPEC Policies

LD211825 Moscow TASS in English 1757 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 21 TASS -- The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov today received in the Kremlin Saudi Arabia's Minister for Petroleum and Mineral Resources Hisham Nazir, who is on a working visit here.

The minister informed Nikolay Ryzhkov of the results of the latest session of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) that adopted an important decision on measures to overcome negative tendencies in the world oil market. He expressed hope that the Soviet Union would display a favourable attitude to this step.

Nikolay Ryzhkov said that the Soviet Union respected the interests of developing countries, their desire to strengthen their national economies and was giving them invariable support in this. The USSR approves of OPEC's constructive efforts and takes them into consideration.

The Soviet Union comes out for the development of normal relations and equal cooperation with all states, including with Saudi Arabia, and proceeds from the premise that a reliable basis for this could be provided by the principles of the Delhi declaration signed recently by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and the Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi.

The Soviet Union comes out for the development of mutually advantageous ties with Saudi Arabia, including in the field of trade, science and culture.

Hashim Nazir expressed gratitude for the warm reception accorded him in the Soviet Union.

IZVESTIYA COMMENTS ON FLARE-UP OF IRAN-IRAQ WAR

PM211153 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Ostalskiy "International Commentary": "The Bitter Fruit of 'Irangate'"]

[Text] The situation on the Iran-Iraq front has deteriorated sharply again. For the second time in the past 3 weeks Iranian troops have launched a major offensive to the east of Basra in south Iraq. [paragraph continues]

The fighting is extremely fierce: According to Western press reports, both sides have lost tens of thousands dead and wounded. As in the past, the stepping up of military actions at the front is being accompanied by the "war of the cities." Bombs and missiles are again exploding on the streets of Baghdad and Basra, Dezful and Bakhtaran, and other population centers.

This tragic development has caused grave alarm to the international community. UN Secretary General J.P. de Cuellar has called for the urgent convening of the Security Council to discuss the current situation.

The latest worsening of the conflict came as no surprise. It is directly connected with the secret supply of U.S. weapons to Iran and the backstage maneuvers of the U.S. Administration, which has supplied both sides with intelligence information. When the secret became known, Reagan's aides tried to justify themselves by claiming that the U.S. supplies did not significantly alter the correlation of forces. However, hardly anyone believed that. The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, for example, citing military experts, has written that the sale of weapons has considerably increased Iran's "offensive potential" and that as a result of the sales of spare parts to it the number of sorties by Iranian F-14 fighters has doubled.

The war, which is now into its 7th year, has inflicted countless calamities on both countries. It only benefits those who are counting on exhausting and weakening both sides and are exploiting the deterioration of the situation in the region for their own purposes. It is no coincidence that Israel has played an active role in organizing the sale of U.S. weapons to Iran. The Western press attests that the United States has even involved Saudi Arabia in its intrigues -- yet another example of the possible outcome of close "alliance ties" with Washington. The tremendous scale of the losses -- both human and material -- and the political damage are utterly disproportionate to the military "successes" gained by Iran, which has not managed to capture significant areas of Iraq territory or to achieve its other proclaimed war aims. As for Iraq, it has long called for a cessation of military operations and the solution of problems existing in relations between the two countries by means of talks based on the UN Charter and the norms of international law. However, Tehran has so far stubbornly rejected these appeals and the efforts at mediation by the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and other international organizations, insisting instead on a "war until victory" and the replacement of the political regime in Iraq.

Peace-loving forces are demanding the rapid ending of a war which is senseless from the viewpoint of both countries' true interests. The Soviet Union has a firm and principled stand on this problem. "The earliest settlement of the conflict would meet the interests of the peoples of Iraq and Iran and all the region's countries," a recent Soviet Government statement stressed. "It would signify an important step toward the general improvement of the international situation."

SYRIA'S AL-ASAD RECEIVES RELIGION DELEGATION

LD192118 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has received a Soviet delegation headed by Kharchev, chairman of the Council of Religious Affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers. During the meeting the Syrian president expressed support for Soviet foreign policy and in particular for the peace initiatives put forward by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. Al-Asad stressed the mutual connection between a Near East settlement and the improvement of the international climate as a whole. He condemned the attempts of U.S. imperialism to unleash a space arms race and attempts by the Washington administration to bring to a standstill the process of improving the international situation.

KAZAKHSTAN CP CENSURES REGIONAL, TOWN OFFICIALS

LD211348 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] At the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Central Committee Bureau: At a regular meeting, the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Central Committee Bureau has examined the issue of the work of the Arkalyk Party Gorkom in organizing the struggle against crime, alcoholism and nonlabor incomes. It was noted that the struggle lacks a systemic and integrated approach, that it is conducted without profound analysis or due account of the real situation, and that it is not aimed at preventive measures. In 1986, in comparison with the previous year, the number of criminal acts increased, and material losses resulting from embezzlement, misapplications and theft of socialist property increased threefold.

The Kazakhstan Central Committee Bureau, deeming the work of (Muzhelevskiy) of the Arkalyk Gorkom unsatisfactory, demanded that the gorkom bureau draw up and put into effect specific measures to improve the current situation, and struggle aggressively to strengthen socialist law and order in every labor collective and educational establishment and in public places. The Central Committee also demanded that the activities of the two coordinating council be directed to resolutely stopping drunkenness, drug addiction, toxicomania, and eradicating parasitism and vagrancy; that the gorkom fundamentally restructure the activities of the law enforcing bodies, make more severe demands on their personnel to expose criminal acts, for the timely and high-quality investigation and examination of court cases, and for the full reimbursement of the state and citizens for losses brought about by criminal actions; that it arrange the precise functioning of mobile groups of volunteer militia, and that it consider responsible for their work the party gorkom and its first secretary, and in the labor collectives -- the secretaries of the party organisations; that it give wide publicity to the struggle with crime, alcoholism and nonlabor incomes, and regularly inform the public of the work being carried out and of its results.

A decision was taken to hold, in March and June this year, certification of senior officials of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Central Committee, in order to evaluate their political, professional and moral qualities, their degree of preparation for fulfillment of the duties they bear and of the development of their initiative in the matter of restructuring party work. Commissions were set up to carry out the certification, and the terms of the certification and a schedule for its process were confirmed.

The Central Committee Bureau discussed the question of the accident at he Balkhash TETS, Dzhezkazgan Oblast. It was noted that, as a result of a rupture in a pipe in the technological water conduit of the Balkhash mining and metallurgical combine, the underground structures, machines and equipment of the TETS were flooded. The station found itself on the verge of a total stoppage. Heat supplies to the town were seriously disrupted, and power supplies to the whole of the industrial region were jeopardized. The accident was the consequence of a negligent attitude on the part of the management of the combine and of the power station in carrying out work in preparation for winter. The fuel supply system was only made operational within 24 hours, and heat supplies only normalized within 38 hours.

The Central Committee Bureau, taking account of the dismissal of (Ovchinnikov) for his post as chief engineer of the Balkhash mining and metallurgical combine, restricted itself to discussing his case.

(Abugaliyev), secretary of the Balkhash Party Gorkom, was given a severe reprimand for the low level of party leadership; for the absence of proper control and of demands on managers for fulfillment of the demands of the party for timely and high-quality preparation for work in winter conditions; and for the lack of initiative shown in the course of eliminating the consequences of the accident.

The attention of Davydov, first secretary of the Dzhezkazgan Party Obkom, was drawn to the absence of a timely reaction to the critical situation that pertained in the Balkhash industrial region, and to the low level of demands on party leaders and managers showing indiscipline and negligence in securing the reliable and uninterrupted work of all facilities in the winter period, and the creation of the proper conditions for fulfilling this year's plan.

Strict warnings were issued to Kazachkov and Takezhanov, CPSU members and Ministers of power and electrification, and of nonferrous metallurgy of the Kazakhstan SSR, for bureaucracy and departmentalism in solving questions relating to the steady work of power facilities, of the industrial region and of the town of Balkhash. It was made incumbent on party obkoms and on oblispolkoms to attentively examine, within the shortest period of time, the actual state of affairs at each enterprise, and to make a principled evaluation of those leading personnel who showed carelessness in carrying out party decisions on the preparation of enterprises, organizations, settlements and towns for winter.

The Central Committee Bureau accepted the proposal of the Alma-Ata Party Obkom to deprive (Kidraliyev), former head of the republic bureau of legal and medical experts, of his honorary title Honored Doctor of the Kazakhstan SSR, for serious shortcomings in his work, gross violations of financial discipline, and abuse of his official position. He enrolled figure head persons to work on the bureau and, with his knowledge, a collection of money was organized from staff and oblast bureaus, totalling more than R2,000, to provide gifts and entertainment for members of USSR Ministry of Health commissions. He showed indiscretion in arranging work for his son. With the connivance of (Kidraliyev), numerous violations of production and labor discipline; drunkenness, falsification and forgery of the results of consultative work were allowed to occur at the republic bureau of legal and medical experts. Previously he had been expelled from the party and relieved of his post for these actions.

A proposal of the Dzhezkazgan Party Obkom was accepted to relieve (Dauletskiy-Limov) of his duties as chairman of the Ispolkom of the Karazhal Town Soviet of people's deputies, for shortcomings in his work and abuse of his official position; these found expression in the unsatisfactory solution of social problems, lack of supervision in carrying out the mandates of the electorate, the illegal allocation of flats, and the sale of vehicles for private use. Other questions were also examined.

KAZAKH FOOD DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM CRITICIZED

LD211721 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 17 Jan 87

[Text] A regular meeting of the working group acting on attachment to the Central Committee for the urgent solution of tasks relating to improving food supplies to the republic's population was held today, chaired by Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Central Committee. Having heard the report given by Shuliko, first secretary of the Alma-Ata Gorkom, the working group noted certain improvements that have occurred in the supply of food products to the town dwellers. This has been fostered in particular by effective measures taken by party bodies to introduce order into the distribution of food provisions.

For example, about 30,000 people have been deprived of the use of supply departments [stol zakazov] in the town; they had made illegal use of their services. The products that had previously been sold at closed distribution centers have been dispatched to the trade network.

At the same time it was pointed out that the gorkom and raykoms, local soviet and economic bodies are still working feebly for the even sale of food resources in each of the rayons of Alma-Ata, and for a rise in the standard of service in shops and cafeterias. The state of trade at the markets also causes concern. In winter time all of them, except the central market, substantially reduce their goods turnover; the reason is an absence of help for rural workers in product deliveries, bad conditions for the sale and storing of meat, fruits and vegetables. Commission trade also functions feebly, and premises provided for it are also inadequate.

It is essential for the gorkom and raykoms, trade, construction and other economic organizations of the town, and the relevant ministries and departments of the republic vigorously and on an integrated basis to approach the solution of the issues that have arisen. It is particularly important to secure a strict daily check that meat, milk, potatoes and vegetables are supplied on time and precisely distributed to all trade enterprises, and that the standard of service given to customers be raised. Effective steps must be taken to increase purchases of animal husbandry and garden produce from the public.

KOLBIN ADDRESSES KAZAKHSTAN CP AKTIV ON HOUSING

LD211615 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Ways of solving the housing problem were examined today at a conference of the Kazakhstan's party and economic aktiv. The first secretary of the Republic's Communist Party Central Committee, Kolbin, spoke at the meeting. He and other speakers emphasized the necessity for drastic changes in the existing practice in housing construction and allocation. After the restoration of social justice and the achievement of openness in the allocation of housing space it is necessary to make full use of the possibilities for sharp increases in the volume and speed of building work. This can be achieved only on the condition that all working people are involved in the solution of the housing problem and that strict control is arranged. Special attention was paid to increasing the demands for quality of construction.

KOLBIN DISCUSSES KAZAKHSTAN WITH JOURNALISTS

LD211755 Moscow TASS in English 1712 GMT 21 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 21 TASS -- "I propose a candid discussion of all problems of economic, social and cultural development that are now important for Kazakhstan", first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan Gennadiy Kolbin said during a meeting with journalists.

The meeting is reported by the MOSCOW NEWS newspaper today.

Gennadiy Kolbin stressed that the straightforward and open nature of the discussion will help solve ripe problems quicker: speed up the pace of restructuring the economy and correctly place personnel. [punctuation as received]

Special attention at the meeting was given to questions of intra-national and national relations which had manifested themselves with such unexpected acuteness in Alma-Ata on December 17 and 18 when young hooligans shouting nationalistic slogans staged a riot in the central square and streets of Alma-Ata.

The participants in the meeting stressed the importance of taking into account the interests of all nationalities and of each in particular. A fair national representation in the leading party and government bodies and a fair enrollment of young people of various nationalities in establishments of higher learning should be ensured. Considering the importance of this problem it has been decided to form at the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan a sector of national and intra-national relations.

A number of party, government and economic officials are actively against democratic transformations, Gennadiy Kolbin noted. The essence of democracy, Gennadiy Kolbin went on, is that an official should give account of himself to the people, tell them what he is intended to do, what he has failed to do and what the collective has lost because of his miscalculations.

The view was also expressed that the approach to the punishment of party members who have commited offences, first of all those holding leading posts, should be more serious.

In the opinion of journalists, the frankness in the assessment of the state of affairs and of problems, that determined the atmosphere of this meeting, and that manifested itself several days earlier also at the plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan, evokes satisfaction and instills serious hopes of changes for the better.

MORE ON KAZAKH CP CC DISCUSSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER

PM211045 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jan 87 p 1

[Unattributed report under the rubric "At the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee": "Strengthening Socialist Legality"]

[Text] The question "On Realizing the CPSU Central Committee Resolution 'On Further Strengthening Socialist Legality and Law and Order and Stepping Up Protection of Citizens' Rights and Legitimate Interests'" has been examined at the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee.

It was pointed out that the shortcomings indicated in the CPSU Central Committee resolution exist in our republic too. Party obkoms, oblispolkoms, economic organs, and public organizations still devote little attention to strengthening socialist legality and law and order and do not regard this direction of activity as a very important factor of socioeconomic restructuring.

The level of criminal phenomena, particularly burglaries, hooliganism, and offenses by minors, is high in cities and settlements. Work on eradicating drunkeness, drug addiction, parasitism, and vagrancy is still conducted poorly. The struggle against unearned income, figure padding, and mismanagement is being developed only slowly.

Party, soviet, and trade union organs have tolerated numerous violations of the labor laws, staff and financial discipline, and the established procedure for allocating housing. Measures for training leading cadres and providing legal education and services for the population are inadequate. A situation of tolerance toward offenders and of all-forgiveness and liberalism has taken root in many labor collectives and at places of residence.

Party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms poorly exercise political leadership of law enforcement organs, in the selection and training of cadres above all. There are frequent instances of unlawful detentions and arrests, unfounded conviction of citizens, callousness toward people, and red tape in investigating their requests and appeals. The level of activity by militia services is low in a number of oblasts. At the same time, the role of those organs' party organizations has been weakened, and the significance of reinforcing cadres with communists on the assignment [po napravleniyam] of labor collectives is underestimated.

The Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee has instructed the coordinating councils for the struggle against crime, alcoholism, and unearned income to organize systematic, effective work to expose and eliminate all negative phenomena. Special significance must be attached to stopping violations of legislation in allocating housing and dismissing citizens and to ensuring strict observance of financial and staff discipline. A resolute and uncompromising struggle must be waged against suppressors and persecutors of criticism and against persons who collect and distribute defamatory information.

Instances of interference by anyone whatever in the investigation and court examination of specific cases must be eliminated. Tougher measures must be taken against recidivists, thieves, robbers, and other antisocial elements. The entire public must be involved in the struggle against drunkenness, drug addiction, parasitism, and unearned income. An atmosphere of implacability toward offenses and respect for Soviet laws and the rules of socialist communal life is to be created in every labor collective and place of residence.

Party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms are instructed to strengthen political leadership of law enforcement organs. Questions of improving the qualitative composition and training of cadres, of control over and responsibility for the execution of the functions entrusted to them, and of enhancing in every possible way the militancy and role of party organizations must be specially monitored. Acceptance for service in internal affairs organs on the recommendation of labor collectives and party and Komsomol organizations must be expanded. The party stratum of cadres must be increased.

The Kazakh SSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education is recommended to introduce the practice of admitting entrants to university law faculties on the recommendation of party obkoms -- principally frontranking workers and kolkhoz members with production experience and demobilized servicemen -- and to return them to their own oblasts on completing their studies. The Kazakh SSR MVD is similarly to select candidates for admission to USSR MVD educational institutions. Manifestations of protectionism, nepotism, and home town favoritism in this matter must be totally eradicated.

Soviets of people's deputies and their ispolkoms must strictly monitor observance of legislation in establishments and organizations under their jurisdiction and the maintenance of public order on their own territory. [paragraph continues]

Every possible effort must be made to strengthen the role of people's control, of the commissions for combating drunkenness, for juvenile affairs, and for road traffic safety, of comrades' courts, and of people's volunteer militia detachments and to ensure every citizen's active involvement in strengthening socialist legality.

Ministries and departments are instructed to instill proper order in their enterprises and organizations with observance of state, contract, staff, and financial discipline and labor legislation, to resolutely suppress figure padding, production of substandard output, mismanagement, and waste, and to strictly ensure that departmental acts comply with existing legislation. More efficient use is to be made of legal levers in restructuring management and socioeconomic activity.

The Kazakh Trade Union Council must take measures to strengthen supervision and monitoring of observance of the labor laws and of the improvement of working conditions, enhance the role of trade union technical and legal inspectorates, and involve working people more widely in their work.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Court, Prosecutor's Office, MVD, Justice Ministry, and State Arbitration Board must persistently restructure their activities, seek to ensure reliable legal support for the protection of the state's and citizens' interests, and enhance exactingness toward cadres in every possible way for the irreproachable fulfillment of their official duty and for professional competence. The party organizations of law enforcement organs must more strictly call to account every communist in the apparatus, including leading workers, for his personal contribution to the restructuring. Instances of unfounded detentions and arrests, of the unlawful institution of criminal proceedings, prejudice, a tendentious approach to investigations and court examinations, red tape, and calousness must be regarded as extraordinary occurrences, every such instance must be carefully checked, and those to blame must be called strictly to account.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS EXAMINES PLAN FULFILLMENT

LD212036 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1645 GMT 21 Jan 87

["In the USSR Council of Ministers" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 21 Jan (TASS) -- A session of the USSR Council of Ministers, which examined the outcome of the fulfillment of the state plan for the country's economic and social development, and of the USSR State Budget for 1986, and the tasks in fulfilling the current year plan, took place today.

The USSR Council of Ministers noted that as a result of the huge po,itical and labor enthusiasm of the Soviet people brought about by the April 1986 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the 27th Party congress, positive shifts were achieved in the past year in all areas of the national economy, further growth was ensured in the scale and efficiency of public sector production, the process of revival in the economy has begun, and the well-being of the Soviet people has been raised.

The measures concerning restructuring, the overcoming of negative trends in national economic development, and the establishment of new approaches to solving social and economic problems were consistently implemented. For the first time in many years, the pace of growth has been raised in almost all industries of public sector production and in a number of the most important areas, they reached the average annual level envisaged in the 5-year plan.

Produced national income increased by 4.1 percent compared to 3.9 percent based on the plan, and 3.5 percent in 1985. Growth of the volume of industrial production output amounted to 4.9 percent compared with 4.3 percent, according to the plan. The annual task for the overall volume of output marketing was fulfilled by 101 percent. It was marketed above the plan to the sum of R9 billion.

Measures to accelerate scientific-technical progress have been implemented. The equipping of industry with up-to-date means of mechanization and automation has increased and the use of progressive technologies in branches of the national economy has widened. Investment policy was further improved. The volume of state capital investments grew by 8 percent. At the same time, the reconstruction and technical reequipping of existing production facilities was stepped apace.

The social policy worked out by the party has begun to be implemented more actively. The average monthly wage of factory and office workers grew by 2.7 percent, whereas the wages of collective farmers grew by 4 percent. Measures to increase the wages of those employed in education and the health and social security services have been carried out. Payments and benefits to the population from social consumption funds have increased. Retail trade turnover grew by 6.4 percent and volume of paid services by 10.2 percent. The scale of housing and particularly sociocultural construction was expanded considerably.

Enterprises and organizations of the agro-industrial complex achieved certain positive results. There was growth in the state procurements of grain, potatoes, vegetables, fruit, and the main kinds of animal husbandry products. The volume of agricultural production was 5.1 percent greater than in 1985.

There was an increase in economic efficiency. Public sector labor productivity rose by 3.8 percent, as compared to 3.2 percent in 1985.

The plans for the growth of labor productivity in industry, construction, and rail transportation were overfulfilled. The transfer of enterprises and associations to new conditions of economic management had a positive effect on boosting the economy and accomplishing social and economic development tasks. They generally achieved higher indicators in fulfilling contracts for the delivery of output and the growth of labor productivity and profits. At the same time, the Council of Ministers noted that at the present stage, the results achieved still do not correspond to the demands put forward by the party. In a number of economic sectors and union republics, restructuring is taking place only slowly and is not affecting the underlying processes; not all labor collectives have yet become actively involved in it; the negative phenomena present in economic development are being eliminated with insufficient decisiveness and energy.

Many ministries and departments are not taking the necessary measures to strengthen state discipline. In 1986, 27 percent of associations and enterprises failed to meet their contractual obligations in regard to output delivery. Associations and enterprises in the machine-building, chemical, timber, paper, and light industries operated below capacity. The machine-building and some other ministries did not draw the necessary conclusions from the serious criticism made of them and did now achieve a decisive breakthrough in developing vital directions of scientific and technical progress and raising the technical level and quality of output.

Capital construction is being reorganized extremely slowly. The fallacious practice of dispersing capital investments continues. The plan for state capital investments and building and assembly work was not fulfilled. The task for bringing into operation capital assets was implemented by only 93 percent.

In the agro-industrial complex, reserves for increasing agricultural production output and raising its effectiveness are being poorly utilized. Losses and nonproductive expenditure are still great. The financial situation of many collective and state farms, enterprises, and organizations of the agro-industrial complex gives rise to serious concern.

Sufficient attention has not been given to solving social questions in a number of industries and regions. The tasks for constructing and bringing into operation preschool establishments, hospitals, clubs, and cultural centers have not been fulfilled in a satisfactory manner, particularly in the Uzbek SSR, Turkmen SSR, Armenian SSR and Tajik SSR, as well as in the USSR Ministry of Power Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, and the USSR Ministry of Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry.

The overall plan for retail trade turnover was not fulfilled in the country as a whole. Many ministries and departments did not take the necessary measures to fulfill profit plans. Nearly one in four industrial enterprises failed to cope with these tasks.

The USSR Government has made it incumbent upon the permanent bodies of the USSR, and the Councils of Ministers of the union republics, guided by the decisions of the 27th Party Congress and the tasks which were set at the meeting with leaders of the union ministries and departments -- which was held at the CPSU Central Committee on 24th December 1986 -- to take measures to eliminate the shortcomings which have been revealed and ensure the absolute fulfilment and overfulfilment in 1987 of the plan tasks and socialist commitment undertaken by labor collectives.

Deep-rooted factors and reserves of the country's economic and social development must be brought into play everywhere in the current year in order to consolidate and augment the positive results which have already been achieved, to reach new qualitative horizons in the economy, and to ensure that the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution is met in a fitting manner. At each level of national economic management it is necessary to implement measures which aim to improve in every way work in all areas and at all economic levels under the conditions of the broad use of economic mangement methods and to switch enterprises and associations to full financial economy and self-financing.

It is necessary to focus one's main efforts on accelerating scientific and technical progress; improving the utilization of the production; scientific, and technical potential that has been created; on significantly increasing in output quality; on maintaining the steady functioning of production; on fundamentally improving the state of affairs in capital construction; on reducing the time-scale for achieving full production in capacities that are being put into operation; on stepping up economies and thrift; and on drawing maximum effect from the practical application of new economic management methods.

The USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee and the Councils of Ministers of the union republics have been instructed to adopt the requisite measures to complete the well-organized overwintering of livestock, to prepare in good time for carrying out the forthcoming spring field work, and to improve considerably the activities of the foodstuff branches of industry.

Special attention this year should be accorded to dealing with social matters, and above all to providing the population with essential, high-quality goods; to improving the functioning of enterprises in the services sphere; and to fulfilling plans for the construction of housing and cultural and consumer facilities.

The USSR Council of Ministers noted that in the course of restructuring, individual ministries and departments of the USSR and councils of ministers of the union republics have lowered their sense of responsibility and exactingness, committing serious errors in their work, which have become particuliarly apparent in the winter period. Despite the fact that long before the onset of winter the party's Central Committee and the USSR Covernment laid down the most important task of preparing the national economy for stable work in the winter period and of creating stocks of fuel for enterprises, for the municipal services, and for the population, whith the heads of ministries and departments and chairmen of the councils of ministers of the union republics being made personally responsible for carrying out this task, a number of regions and industries -- as has been noted in a CPSU Central Committee decision -- displayed a lack of concern and indiscipline in fulfilling the decisions adopted on these matters. As a result, breakdowns occurred and interruptions in the supply of heat and power and in goods transportation took place. All this had a serious effect on the functioning of the various sectors of the economy, harmed the national economy, and brought considerable difficulties to people's lives.

The USSR Council of Ministers has required USSR ministries and departments, the councils of ministers of the union republics, and all management bodies to adopt measures immediately to rectify the existing situation, prevent any further interruptions in heat and power supplies to the population or in the function of the national economy, and to meet the targets planned for January 1987 without fail.

Particular attention at the USSR Council of Ministers session was paid to the state of affairs concerning raising the quality of output and the introduction of the state acceptance service. It was noted that following the conference held at the CPSU Central Committee of 14 November 1986, at which CPSU General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev put forward very important theses on the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development, primarily through quality, technical progress, a move over to new equipment and technology, and activization of the human factor, great work has unfolded in the country. Many enterprises and organizations have implemented a range of measures directed toward radically improving the quality of output and ensuring efficient operation under the conditions of transfer to new principles of the acceptance of production.

As verification demonstrates however, in a number of industry branches there is great neglect regarding the improvement of quality and additional efforts need to be made to eliminate the serious shortcomings that exist. It is absolutely impermissible that work on the introduction of the state acceptance service is being done in an insufficiently organized manner in certain associations and enterprises. This is happening because many economic managers have approached this most important business of bringing in the state acceptance service in a formal way. There are frequent instances of control being poorly exercized on the part of ministries over the elaboration and implementation of specific measures related to the transfer of associations and enterprises to the new principles for the acceptance of production. As a result, the newly-established state acceptance bodies frequently fail to meet with support, which is having a negative effect on ensuring that they work harmoniously with enterprises in solving the general problem of improving quality.

At the meeting of the USSR Council of Ministers it was particularly noted that the introduction of the state acceptance service is a very important state affair. It is totally intolerable that in a number of cases it is beginning to be enveloped in formalism. It was stressed that old methods, conservatism, and bureaucratic fussing are absolutely incompatible with what is being undertaken now on questions of raising quality. Scandalous facts were cited of cases where people are starting to replace the brisk work of state acceptance bodies with the compiling of multitudes of questionnaires and reports for ministries, departments, trade union organs, the USSR state committee for standards, and the councils of ministers of union republics.

The USSR Council of Ministers has demanded that the heads of ministries and departments, the USSR State Committee for Standards, the central economic bodies, and the councils of ministers of the union republics without delay should implement measures to promote the effective work of the state acceptance service.

Instructions have been issued that visits should be made to associations and enterprises and deep analysis should be made of the results of their work, aimed at radically improving the quality of output. Shortcomings existing in this matter are to be eliminated. The necessary organizational and technical measures are to be elaborated and implemented in close contact with the state acceptance service.

The instruction has been issued that there should be a detailed review of questions connected with the increase in the labor-output ratio of the high quality goods being produced and that timely measures be taken to regulate these. All manifestations of departmentalism and formalism must resolutely be eradicated both in the activity of the organs of the state acceptance service and the services of the associations and enterprises at which it has been introduced.

The USSR Council of Ministers also discussed the question of measures to raise the efficiency of the use of production capacities and, in connection with this, transferring industrial associations, enterprises, and organizations and those in other branches of the national economy to working in two and three shifts, with the appropriate restructuring of the activity of the services area.

Taking part in the discussion of the questions were G.A. Aliyev, V.I. Vorotnikov and L.N. Zaykov, members of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee; N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and other members of the USSR Government.

N.I. Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, spoke at the meeting.

STATISTICS CHIEF AT NEWS CONFERENCE ON ECONOMY

LD191751 Moscow TASS in English 1728 GMT 19 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 19 TASS -- Reorganisation has been started and is gathering momentum in all areas of the Soviet society's life, Mikhail Korolev, head of the USSR Central Statistical Board, said here. He was addressing a news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists today on the results of this country's economic and social development last year.

The essence of what is going on, Korolev said, is that some stagnant phenomena have been overcome. The negative tendency of a decline in the development rates has been stopped and high growth indicators have been achieved in all sectors of socialized production.

The aggregate national income has reached nearly 590,000 million roubles, which is an annual increase of 4.1 percent, the plan target being 3.9 percent and the average annual growth rates from 1981 to 1985 being 3.6 percent. The volume of industrial output over a year grew by 39,000 million roubles or 4.9 percent (the plan target being 4.3 and the average annual growth rates over the past five-year plan period -- 3.7 percent).

Korolev recalled in that connection that the annual growth of industrial output in the USA has been roughly one percent, in Britain, France, the FRG and Italy -- nearly two percent, in Japan a 0.5 percent decline has been registered for the first time over the past decade.

By a number of indicators the USSR has reached the annual average growth rates envisaged for the five-year plan period (1986-90). A turn has manifested itself for a more active social policy, strengthening the material base of the social and cultural field. The average monthly pay to the factory and office workers has grown 2.7 percent, the pay to the collective farmers -- four percent. The consumption by the population of the material benefits and services has increased by 5.5 percent. The rate of commissioning new housing has been a record one. Many schools, hospitals and clubs have been built.

The results of the campaign to combat alcoholism have been positive, the chief of the USSR Central Statistical Board said. As a result of a cut by more than a third of the sale of alcoholic drinks, the rate of traumatism has declined, discipline has improved and demographic indicators have bettered -- the death rate has declined while the birth rate has increased and the average life expectancy has grown.

At the same time Mikhail Korolev pointed out that the readjustment effort was not yet in the spirit of the times everywhere. It was too slow in some sectors of the economy. In some instances, an uneven pace of production, poor quality of products and a lag in bringing production capacities into operation have been registered. The demand of the population has not yet been fully met. Much work is yet to be done to ensure the attainment of the targets of the current five-year plan period.

UKRAINIAN CP EXPELS, REPRIMANDS MINE OFFICIALS

LD181740 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 18 Jan 87

[Text] The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo has examined a report and has agreed with the conclusions of a government commission on the results of the investigation into the causes of the accident at the Yasinovskaya-Glubokaya mine.

It has been established that the accident happened as a result of crude violations of safety rules by section personnel during mining operations.

Measures have been taken to give material assistance to the victims and to the families of miners who died; to establish pensions and supplementary payments; to improve living and everyday conditions; and also to ensure the normal working of the mine. The government commission has determined which workers of the pit and the association were responsible for the accident. Dmitriyev and Kashperskiy, the heads of Section No. 7 and of the ventilation and safety equipment section; Vegera and Sokolov, the mechanics of those sections; Kruchevskiy, the mine controller of the pit; Gaydamakin and Subin, the chief power worker and chief engineer of the mines of the Yasinovskaya administration, have been removed from their posts. Documents about them, and also about electro-metal worker Chiguna, have been conveyed to inquiry bodies.

By decisions of the bureaus of the Donetsk Obkom and the Makeyevka Obkom, Dmitriyev, Vegera, Kruchevskiy and Subin have been expelled from the CPSU. Severe reprimands have been given to Comrades Nazhe and Shchipachev, the director of the mines in the administration, the technical director and chief engineer of the association, members of the CPSU, and their names have been entered in the penalty book. Lisovoy, director general of the association, has been given a reprimand, and his name has been entered in the penalty book. A number of other chief workers have been called strictly to account by the party.

The Central Committee Politburo of the Ukrainian Communist Party drew the attention of the collegium of the Ukraine SSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, and of the minister, Comrade Surgay personally, to the serious shortcomings in the fulfillment of the decisions of the party and the government concerning labor safety and safety equipment. It demanded that they fundamentally restructure the preventive work for the prevention of accidents and mishaps. It demanded that they set up healthy and safe labor conditions in every workplace.

The party committee of the Ukraine SSR Ministry of the Coal Industry has been given the task of instituting party proceedings against Comrade Gryadushchev, head of the Safety Equipment and Industrial Health Administration of the ministry; and Comrade Zakharchenko, head of the Power and Engineering Administration, for a negligent attitude toward the organization of work for the prevention of accidents and mishaps at the industry's enterprises. It was noted that recently control over the observance of safety requirements in the coal industry and several other industries of the republic's economy had been slackened by the Ukrainian SSR State Mining Technical Supervision.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee obliged the committee collegium to implement urgent measures to correct the situation that has arisen with regard to labor safety, and to put a resolute stop to violations of safety regulations. The Ukrainian republic and territorial committees of the Trade Union of Coal Industry Workers have been given the task of stepping up work concerned with implementing the measures envisioned by collective agreements aimed at improving safety equipment and labor safety for miners. They are to create an atmosphere of an uncompromising stance in all places toward those who violate discipline and safety norms and regulations.

It has been suggested to the Donetsk, Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, Lvov, Volyn, and Kirovograd Obkoms, Gorkoms and Raykoms of the party, and to fronttranking party organizations of enterprises and construction sites of the coal industry of the republic, that they must improve organizational and political work aimed at preventing industrial injuries. In all that work they are to take as their basis the demands of the CPSU Central Committee, regarding strengthening discipline and orderliness, and increasing the responsibility of personnel for the provision of a high level of labor safety.

BIRYUKOVA ATTENDS TEXTILE WORKERS TU CONGRESS

LD211332 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 20 Jan 87

[Text] The congresses of three industrial trade unions are under way in Moscow today: the Education Higher Schools, and Scientific Institutions Workers Union, the Textile and Light Industry Workers Union, and the Radio-electronics Industry Workers Union. Comrade Zimyanin is taking part in the work of the 10th congress of the Education, Higher Schools, and Scientific Institutions Workers Union; Comrade Biryukova is participating in the work of the 12th congress of the Textile and Light Industry Workers Union.

PAPER INTERVIEWS ACADEMICIAN AGANBEGYAN

PM191211 Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 1, 8 Jan 87 (Signed to Press 7 Jan 87) pp 2, 6

[Interview with Academician A.G. Aganbegyan, chief editor of the journal EKO, by IZVESTIYA scientific observer Boris Konovalov: "Complex Steps of Restructuring"; date and place not stated]

[Text] Before beginning this conversation we spoke about how several words which, although they are not new, have suddenly acquired special resonance and have entered the economists' dictionary recently, the most important of these words being "acceleration" and "restructuring." I wondered how my interlocutor understood these words. Abel Gezevich Aganbegyan replied as follows:

The acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development is the linchpin of the party's new economic strategy, both for the immediate future and the long term. This concept does not come down only to quantitative indicators of economic growth rates, although it does presuppose a substantial increase in these rates. [paragraph continues]

A far more important quality of growth is the fundamental change in its sources and orientation and in everything which will enable our society to rise to a qualitatively new, higher level in its development, displaying its all-around and tangible advantages over the world of capitalism.

Restructuring means fundamental, in-depth, it may be said revolutionary, changes in our life. Not its renovation, amelioration, or partial improvement, but the building of new forms -- fundamentally new forms. Naturally, restructuring applies directly to each one of us and presupposes a different, higher quality to our labor and a different, more exacting personal approach to it.

Our talk began.

[Konovalov] Abel Gezevich, we have agreed to devote this conversation mainly to subjects connected with the strategy of the development of our economy and to problems of restructuring. But let's talk first of the reasons for the need for the revolutionary processes which are taking place in the national economy today. In brief, why has it suddenly been necessary to restructure it?

[Aganbegyan] Why is restructuring necessary? It is necessary because the old structure of the economy, the old economic policy, the old system of management, the old development trends -- that is, everything which determines the economy's advance -- failed to accord with the new conditions and new tasks which the times had sent us. All this can be seen particularly clearly in the generalizing indicator of the national economy's development that is the national income, because it is essentially the sum total of benefits, the "hamper" from which society takes funds for consumption and accumulation. It is well known that in the past 15 years the growth rates of this basic economic and social indicator have declined by a factor of approximately 2.5 with all ensuing consequences. This adverse trend had to be drastically broken, and acceleration had to be achieved. Unfortunately, we were unable to assess promptly the new conditions in which our economy had to live, and we continued to act through inertia, without taking the necessary measures.

[Konovalov] What are you talking about? What "new conditions?"

[Aganbegyan] The serious changes (everyone knows of them) which have taken place in external conditions -- in the world situation. The serious changes which have taken place in our domestic conditions. There has been a sharp reduction in the growth of all types of production resources -- manpower, raw materials, capital investments, and funds. After all, formerly we developed primarily by expansion, by enlisting an increasingly large share of resources into production. Now we cannot develop in this way. The old extensive development trends are leading us into an impasse. On the other hand, the scientific and technical revolution has entered a new stage, yet we were continuing to pursue our old scientific and technical policy. The role of the human factor has altered radically; yet we have continued to cling to the so-called residual principle of distribution, whereby only those budget funds which remained after they had been distributed in the interests of building up production indicators were assigned for the needs of socil development and the social sphere.

In the seventies and early eighties there was a marked reduction in production and labor productivity growth rates, several effectiveness indicators deteriorated, and scientific and technical progress slowed down.

It became clear that the situation was such that we could not limit ourselves to partial alterations to the edifice of the economy. Different, radical, measures were needed. [paragraph continues]

Fundamental restructuring was needed. As you recall, it was toward precisely this restructuring that the party Central Committee April (1985) Plenum directed us.

The 27th CPSU Congress planned to effect a resolute shift from extensive to intensive work methods. Figuratively speaking, it is a case of moving from putting on the brakes to accelerating the country's socioeconomic development, to the speediest solution of economic and social problems.

[Konovalov] And to be more specific? What is envisaged in the 12th 5-Year Plan and the period through the year 2000?

[Aganbegyan] First of all, we must move from the 3 percent annual national income growth rate in the forthcoming 5-year period to 4 percent, and in the nineties 5 percent. And this must be done with a declining growth of resources, exclusively through a considerable increase in the effectiveness of the national economy -- the growth of labor productivity, the saving of raw materials, fuel, and semifinished materials, and the improvement of the return on investment. In contrast to former years, in this 5-year plan we must ensure two-thirds of economic growths through intensive factors, and as of the nineties three-fourths of growth must be through raising production efficiency.

[Konovalov] Is the following parallel correct: In the twenties our country carried out restructuring on the basis of the GOELRO [State Association for the Electrification of Russia] plan, which was essentially a comprehensive scientific and technical program for boosting the entire national economy. In the present restructuring, is a decisive role also assigned to the achievements of the scientific and technical revolution?

[Aganbegyan] I think life is more complex than parallels of this kind. The acceleration of scientific and techncial progress is by no means the sole condition for the acceleration of our economic development. The in-depth restructuring of the entire system of production relations, the management system, and the social sphere is needed. Here all this must be viewed in a package, as some kind of single entity, as a single organism in which no one organ can exist independently of another.

Yes, scientific and technical progress must now become the "locomotive" in boosting the economy and intensifying production. But unfortunately in recent years scientific and technical progress has proceeded in the country predominantly along the evolutionary path, mainly through minor improvements in technology and new equipment. A fundamental breakthrough must now also be achieved in this field. The main stake now is on revolutionary technologies which can increase labor productivity several times over and on the transition to fundamentally new generations of equipment and the replacement of individual machines with whole systems of equipment of new generations encompassing the entire complex of production in a particular specific field. A new investment policy has been announced for the purpose, whose nucleus consists of the course toward the resolute restructuring of the entire material and technical base of our economy. In this 5-year plan the rates of renewal of obsolete equipment wil be at least doubled for the national economy as a whole.

[Konovalov] Why is it machine building which has been given priority here? And not, for instance, electronics?

[Aganbegyan] Well, if only because the development of all other sectors depends primarily on machine building. [paragraph continues]

Indeed, if we understand the word "machine building" in a sufficiently broad sense, we must include in this concept both electronics and instrument building -- in brief, that entire new sphere of activity which we call the information industry... Machine building has been given priority precisely because it is only with its aid that it is possible to give material form to the achievements of scientific and technical progress and that, as is well known, is the main lever for the intensification of the economy. Scientists' ideas can be embodied in life only with the aid of new machinery, new instruments, and new equipment which back up the new technology. And it is the machine builders who produce all this equipment. So, as you can see, the main link in this process is machine building. Incidentally, when we blame our science -- rightly or not entirely rightly -- for an excessively slow tempo in introducing its achievements, we must direct our critical fire primarily against machine building.

That is why the growth of investments in machine building, which in the previous 5-year plan was less than 30 percent, must increase 80 percent in the current 5-year plan. Machine building is being given unprecedented funds -- R63 billion for the 5-year plan -- and they must be used skillfully. By 1990 nearly 60 percent of machine building's technical base must in fact be renewed. Emphasis on a new technical and technological base will make it possible to improve the standard of our machine building's output. Unfortunately, as yet the situation here is unfavorable. Studies have shown that 71 percent of series machine building output fails to comply with the modern standard. And 86 percent of articles in machine tool building and over 83 percent of articles in instrument building are below the world standard. You can understand that the production of this output indisputably causes the country a grave loss. This output must be taken out of production and must be replaced with new output of better quality. And while in 1985 only 3.1 percent of the entire range of articles in machine building were renewed, it is now planned to increase this indicator to 13 percent.

Taking this into account, the 5-year plan includes a very high target for the machine builders -- achieving the point where by 1990 some 80-95 percent of the main types of the output they produce complies with the world standard. Minimum efficiency limits have now been set for new output to replace old output: Its labor productivity must be at least 50 percent and its reliability at least 50-100 percent more than old output. And this must be accompanied by a 12-18 percent reduction in metals intensiveness. In this connection a great many plans for the modernization of enterprises, a large proportion of which proved, on checking, to be unsuitable, are now being reworked.

[Konovalov] There are more than enough negative examples showing that restructuring in machine building is proceeding with difficulty. But could you give an example of the modernization of an old plant which could serve as a model for others?

[Aganbegyan] There are also many such examples. Leading cadres are now being replaced. Many new young directors have set to work vigorously and are boldly breaking down not only decrepit shop buildings but also entrenched traditions, are undertaking direct links with kindred enterprises in socialist countries, and are utilizing the best technical and scientific experience of our country and other countries.

It would probably be worth describing the experience of the modernization of the Gorkiy Truck Plant. It is hard to imagine a more complex enterprise, with its old, sometimes prewar, assets, and its obsolete automobile technology and models. It is essentially a plant of the thirties, at which there is a great deal of manual labor.

And now this obsolete giant plant has begun modernization. It has been given a relatively small amount of currency -- far less than given, for instance, to new truck plants like the Volga plant. And the Gorkiy workers were faced with a choice: How do we make the most advantageous use of this currency? The first option was to buy automated lines and put them to the production of a modern truck. Usually that is what everyone does. But a different way was possible -- spending a considerable proportion of their currency on creating their own automated production facility for specialized truck manufacturing equipment. Essentially the money is spent on creating their own machine building "firm." Then the production of new trucks can be ensured with a far smaller currency investment. In addition, the money could be channeled into the development of an experimental testing producton facility, the setting up of testing units and testing stations, and into equipment for checking output quality. And, of course, the best models of foreign trucks could be bought so thaty they could see in their country the world standard to which they must aspire.

The Gorkiy truck builders chose this strategic solution. They began to produce a great deal through their own efforts. In particular, they took documentation from the Ivanovo machine tool builders and began themselves to produce very complex processing centers, set up the production of several automated lines, including foundry lines, and within the old walls created a foundry shop of a high technological standard where working conditions have been radically improved. By the end of the 5-year plan this very old truck plant will begin to produce, using new technology and new equipment, a fundamentally new mass-market truck with a diesel engine. This vehicle is 50 percent more economical, 70 percent more productive, and 100 percent more reliable. The economic effect from the use of every 10,000 new Gorkiy Truck Plant trucks in the national economy will be R65 million a year. And the main thing is that the production structure created by the Gorkiy workers contains the possibility of constantly improving the standard of the end product -- trucks.

[Konovalov] There is a lot of talk now about the need for a radical reform in the administration of the entire system of economic management. Why is restructuring failing to proceed as rapidly here as people would like? What is preventing this process?

[Aganbegyan] The crux of radical reform consists primarily in the transition from predominantly administrative methods of management to economic methods. And the main thing here is to fundamentally change the entire interlinked economic threesome of supply, finance, and prices.

That is why one of the main projected measures is the gradual replacement of the distribution of the means of production from a centralized stock with wholesale trade and direct ties between enterprises. But this cannot be done immediately for the simple reason that the enterprisees' accounts at present have a large quantity of surplus money, and all their preceding economic practice has developed a powerful "grasping instinct." As soon as you are authorized to buy what you want there will be a sharp increase in above-norms stocks.

This is not a hypothetical proposition. Such a phenomenon has already been observed in a large-scale economic experiment. As soon as enterprises were given red-lined warrants for priority supplies, they all immediately began to buy up equipment and materials "to lay in." A threatening situation has now taken shape -- the cost of stocks in all our economic facilities has exceeded the astronomical figure of R460 billion! It will soon overtake the volume of the national income. And the sum of stocks is growing at twice the speed of production. Material resources have been acquired to a considerable extent through credits, and there have been years when production growth has been 3-4 percent and credit growth 10-15 percent. [paragraph continues]

As a result, an enormous mass of surplus money not determined by real production needs began to circulate in noncash transactions. That is why the general, and not experimental, introduction of wholesale trading necessarily requires the restructuring of the finance and credit mechanism, as mentioned in the CPSU Central Committee report to the 27th party congress.

We must also create a special mechanism which would prevent the growth of above-norm stocks. Otherwise wholesale trade will be "derailed."

It is no less important to work out a new system of price formation. The point of the new economic mechanism which is being created is that it should be anti-expenditure. In other words, it should stimulate saving and effectiveness and not the growth of expenditure, not an increase in gross production output without a qualitative improvement in this output, and so forth. But so far the opposite is happening, with prices stimulating the spending nature of enterprises' operation. That cannot be tolerated either.

As you can see, this entire threesome of supply, finance, and prices comprises an inextricable whole. We cannot begin to improve one of them without affecting the others. Past experience shows that the reform of prices alone requires at least 2 years' preparation. And without that there can be no broad transition to new economical methods of management.

[Konovalov] But we cannot sit by with folded arms?

[Aganbegyan] No doubt about it. A great many regulations and a great deal of petty tutelage can be eliminated without waiting for fundamental restructuring. That is why the positive process here is proceeding in waves, as it were. If we are speaking of industry then /the first wave of this restructuring is the large-scale economic experiment/. [passage between slantlines published in boldface] Its thrust is that incentives to the fulfillment of the deliveries plan have been stepped up. From the annual address [adresnoye] planning of the wages funds we have moved to long-term economic normatives, which has made it possible to substantially expand enterprises' rights in the field of labor and wages. The set norms have also provided great autonomy in forming incentive funds.

These are not radical measures, but they are in the mainstream of restructuring and have already produced a certain positive effect -- there has been an improvement in ensuring contract deliveries, the tempo of labor productivity has increased a little, and prime cost has declined slightly. In 1986 some 44 percent of industrial enterprises were already operating under the conditions of the large-scale economic experiment. As of 1987 all industrial enterprises will tansfer to these conditions. That is good, but not enough. That means we must proceed further....

[Konovalov] And in 1987 the second major wave of restructuring will begin -- the transition to the system of self-financing on the basis of the eexisting experience of the Volga Truck Plant and the Sumy Machine Building Science and Production Association.

[Aganbegyan] Self-financing is, of course, already a more serious measure. The main principle of the relationship between enterprises and the budget and the formation of incentives funds alters. These funds are now formed not on the basis of a number of fund-forming indicators with the inclusion of the profit residue in the budget but comprise a specific firm percentage (long-term economic normative) of the enterprise's revenue. That is why profit as an economic indicator is being promoted to the fore. Enterprises are being given great freedom in the use of incentive funds, and their relationships with the finance organs and ministries are becoming more clear-cut. [paragraph continues]

And if this system is used correctly, as has been the case at the Volga Truck Plant and the Sumy Machine Building Science and Production Association, very substantial results can be obtained. For instance, in the course of the year of the experiment at the Sumy Machine Building Science and Production Association the growth in production output was 14 percent while profits rose 32 percent. By this means the enterprise received large-scale resources for carrying out modernization, improving output quality, and resolving social questions.

As of 1987 conditions of complete self-financing are to extend to five industrial union ministries, a number of large-scale enterprises and associations of other sectors, and also to the USSR Ministry of the Maritime Fleet and to trade. If this system gives a good account of itself on such a broad front (and that will most likely be the case), then as of 1988 it will evidently become the predominant system in our economy. It may be hoped that self-financing will generate larger advances in raising labor productivity and production efficiency and improving output quality than the large-scale economic experiment has done, but even this does not resolve all problems.

That is why we must expect /a third -- and most important! -- wave of restructuring -- the fundamental expansion of enterprises' autonomy./ [passage between slantlines published in boldface] But we must prepare painstakingly for it. And this "wave" will gather strength only when the system of prices and the financing and credit mechanism are changed, and the transition is effected to wholesale trade and direct links between enterprises. Then it will be possible sharply to reduce the number of plan indicators, including products list indicators. It will in fact be possible to abandon the present form of annual plan and to really make the 5-year plan the basis of planning, to transfer to a system of orders, to develop contract relations not only horizontally (between enterprises) but also vertically, and to implement a number of other revolutionary measures. Then we will indeed change not in words but in deeds from predominantly administrative forms of administration to the dominance of economic methods.

[Konovalov] But you must agree, Abel Gezevich, that to give rights to enterprises you must take them from someone else -- for instance from all-union industrial associations and ministries. And, as practice shows, they are reluctant to part with their rights. What is to be done? How to "mollify" those who want to play "first fiddle" without fail?

[Aganbegyan] It is indeed a problem. And a very complex one. According to some estimates there are now approximately 200,000 various legal instructions, often utterly out of date, operating in the country. Indeed, it is not completely clear which of them are "legal" and which are not, so that an enterprising economic leader is put in a very difficult situation. Under the pretext of restructuring there has been a sharp increase in the activity of various verifying bodies, and under these conditions it is very easy to find a crime. That is why many economic leaders are simply afraid to take advantage of their autonomy, seeing how badly this has ended for their neighbors.

I see the solution of the problem in the following measures. First, in the adoption of a law on enterprises which would clearly stipulate their rights and duties. As is well known, the CPSU Central Committee recently examined the draft of this law and, attaching tremendous importance to it, decided to continue work on it.

For all "superstructural" managerial organizations it is essential to have simple provisions determining their activity which have less legal force than the law. Then if they take actions detrimental to enterprises, the state's entire law enforcement apparatus should come to the defense of the economic leaders.

Second, the solution of the problem is connected with the redistribution of rights -- from the organs of sectorial ministries in favor of production associations and enterprises... It is curious that you only have to engage in this redistribution of rights for it to emerge immediately that some of the links in the sectorial apparatus are totally unnecessary. In many machine building ministries, for instance, all-union industrial associations have been eliminated with a considerable reduction in personnel. To some extent the petty tutelage of ministries has been removed, but they continue to cling tightly to economic operations activity although it would not be correct to hand this activity over to the lower economic links while the ministries themselves as the 27th party congress stated, should be turned into scientific and technical headquarters for their sectors. There has been no large-scale restructuring and the scope for the functioning of the old administrative methods of management still remains.

[Konovalov] That is, the lower echelons of the national economy and the upper floors of management are actively advocating restructuring while the "middle echelon" seems to bo opposing it?

[Aganbegyan] Why "seems to?" As we can see, it actually is opposing it. To get an idea of the present situation in restructuring, I would cite the following analogy. A man is learning to swim. Even if no one prevents him it is no simple matter. So our economic system now must also find its way in the sea of economic methods and learn to use the new levers and stimuli. Of itself this is a difficult task, for after all we have had virtually no experience. But it is even harder if people grab hold of the "swimmer's" arms and legs and openly try to push his head further under the water to put him off learning to "swim" for a long time. There is no doubt that such "methods" greatly complicate the process of restructuring, all the more so since every economic leader has an alternative: He can stand calmly on the shore and wait? Let's see whether my bold neighbor engaged in restructuring his economic facility will swim or sink...

[Konovalov] But what is being done now to strengthen enterprises' autonomy?

[Aganbegyan] A lot is being done. Without waiting for the strategic decision which we were just discussing, the party and government are seeking consistently, step by step, to expand enterprises autonomy and independence.

I shall cite just two facts.

In the summer of 1986 important decisions were taken in connection with the development of foreign economic relations -- 70 associations and large-scale enterprises of various ministries were given the right to independently go out onto the world market, including the capitalist market. Direct ties with the socialist countries' enterprises were authorized and simplified.

In October 1986 the CPSU Central Committee approved the work of the "Mosoblselstroy" No 18 Trust on the collective contract principle -- this trust is headed by N.I. Travkin. In the collective contract the end results of labor have more substantial influence on wages funds and workers' remuneration. Here each person's personal contribution is determined democratically -- by economic councils with the workers' participation. As we can see, the collective contract, beginning with teams of workers, gradually encompasses sectors, shops, and whole enterprises. It is recommended that the broadest possible use be made of this form of economic management, which not only establishes a more clear-cut dependence between labor and remuneration but also expands the democratic foundations of our life.

[Konovalov] I am slightly acquainted with the experience of the No. 18 Trust. Labor productivity growth there has in practice been achieved thanks to the fact that people here have been able to establish the direct dependence of the worker's wages on the results of his labor, thereby boosting the importance of his personal qualities to production, which is in fact what we call "the human factor." But what importance as a whole is attached to the human factor in the new economic strategy?

[Aganbegyan] Indeed, it would seem that a scientific and technical revolution is under way, and that science and technology are becoming the main motive force of production development. So what do individuals have to do with it, so to speak? Yes, the integration of science and technology and the transformation of many production facilities into a kind of technological appendage to them is the main aspect of the matter. But another aspect is also important: The latest achievements can only be realized if we have workers capable of making skilled and qualified use of this equipment. New equipment requires a new type of worker -- more organized, with internal discipline, more educated, with the ability to work in the collective. That is why attention toward education at all its stages and for all categories of people employed in the national economy is now acquiring paramount importance.

The old proverb has it that if you give a man a fish you feed him once; but if you teach a man how to catch fish he will be fed for a lifetime. Teaching is more important than giving.

Nor can I fail to mention the following point: The system of self-education should also promote cadres' growth. There are 1.5 million organizations in the country. In industry alone there are over 45,000 associations and enterprises. But is there even one journal for the director? In the twenties when we were poor and there was an acute shortage of paper, we had several such journals! So does the director today have less need of knowledge and the assimilation of leading experience, including foreign experience? But no, there is no society, no association, no special journal for directors. Surely that cannot be right? After all, directors and other leaders are the Atlases on whose shoulders our economic welfare largely rests.

The underlying point of all the changes now taking place in the country unfailingly lies in man. Actually, the main aim of acceleration is to make our people's lives better and more beautiful. And for that the concept of acceleration organically includes a drastic shift toward man's needs, toward the solution of urgent social tasks. Compared with the 11th 5-Year Plan, in the 12th the pace of the growth of the food complex and services sphere will more than double, the growth rate of production in the consumer goods industry will increase 50 percent, and there will be a substantial increase in the commissioning of housing and in particular of children's institutions, schools, hospitals and polyclinics, and cultural establishments. A fundamental program is being drafted for improving the population's health. A substantial improvement is expected in pension provisions on the basis of a new law now under preparation. The sphere of the use of manual labor, especially heavy manual labor, is being sharply reduced and working conditions are being improved. Economic leaders' attention has finally started to turn toward environmental conservation.

A very important task is to make labor joyful for man; and not verbally, but in deeds. This can be provided by comprehensive mechanization and automation, the computerization of production, and its retooling. But in my opinion the main thing is that at every enterprise a feeling of ownership must be formed in people. It is this aim in particular which is set by the expansion of enterprises' autonomy and the rights of the labor collective.

It is very important to really open up the "floodgates" of creativity and initiative. We must notice and reveal people's abilities and help them to be realized. [paragraph continues]

You remember how much the mass involvement with gliding and ham radio once gave our country. Now computerization is playing a gigantic part. Here, as world experience shows, many very important inventions are made by individuals or small groups. It was not some powerful electronics firm but two young boys in a garage who developed the first personal computer. That is why it is very important for us to remove all obstacles in the path of rationalizers and inventors. Here too, incidentally, a new law is also being drafted aimed at promoting the realization of inventors' creative potential.

Of course, material incentives must not be forgotten either. He who works better should receive more. People must be given the opportunity to earn money honestly in nonwork time, and not only by physical labor. A law on individual labor activity has now been adopted and many restrictions have been lifted. But there are still reserves in this matter. Why in some fraternal countries are there scientific and technical cooperatives and innovations banks subsidizing the realization of inventions but none in our country? In my view there should be broader experimentation in this field.

The acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development and the shift toward man's needs form an inextricable whole.

AZERBAIJAN OIL WORKERS CRITICIZE TU OFFICIALS

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[Text] Baku January 21 TASS -- Inspectors of the Azerbaijani trade union of oil and gas industry workers have come under sharp criticism at the union's review-and-election conference for their faltering performance.

"More often than not," one speaker said at the meeting which was held in the capital of this Transcaucasian republic, "you come to the off-shore oil fields in spring or summer so that you can enjoy a fresh sea breeze."

"However, when it is winter, like now, the Caspian is often rough and one can plainly see the hard conditions we have to work in, there is no-one of you to be met on the platforms out there."

Following his and other statements, the conference decided on increasing the role played by the trade union in all matters affecting the working and other conditions of the workers in the oil and gas industries.

Without softpedaling prickly issues, which was often the case before, the delegates criticized trade union officials for having stuck with the old ways of organizing the socialist emulation drive and not doing enough to promulgate the working experience of the best drillmen.

Over the past five years the trade union has spent some ten million doubles to mechanize and automate the more arduous jobs and modernize 240 outdated facilities.

But now that priority in the country belongs to promoting the principle of collective decision-making on pay incentives and the economic rather than administrative levers of stimulating production, delegates stressed, the trade union must work for every worker to understand the substance of the new economic policy through his own experience rather than lectures.